

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph at page 8, line 14:

C1
Fig. 13a is a perspective view of an alternative lock, a code-operated combination lock, for use with the coupler and lock of Fig. 12.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

C2
Figs. 12, 13, and 14 illustrate a third preferred embodiment of the present invention wherein the hasp 17 of a lock 16 is passed through handle 2 and opening 4a of retainer bracket 4 and locked in the customary manner. Referring particularly to Fig. 14, the diameter D_h of hasp 17 is preferably selected such that hasp 17 will pass through opening 4a of retainer bracket 4 with a small tolerance. The width W_h between the legs of hasp 17 should be wide enough to permit hasp 17 to enclose the lower portion of handle 2 and the top web 28 of retainer bracket 4 with minimal clearance. The length L_h of the legs of hasp 17 when in a locked position should be such that it is not possible to move handle 2 to the open coupler position. For example, with a standard gooseneck coupler having either a box chamfer handle 29 or a box round handle 20 as shown in Fig. 5, diameter D_h is preferably about 7/16 in., width W_h is preferably about 1.0 in., and length L_h is preferably about 1 3/4 in. The body of lock 16 is preferably of a conventional design, such as a keyed or combination lock, and preferably should be constructed with a size, shape, and mass appropriate for the particular hasp, as desired. Fig. 13a illustrates one such conventional code-operated combination lock 16.